From: Rick Friedman
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/8/02 6:43am
Subject: Microsoft Case

Justice Department

Stop the Clinton-era Anti-trust law abuse.

The Microsoft trial squandered taxpayers' dollars, was a nuisance to consumers, and was a serious deterrent to investors in the high-tech industry. It is high time for this trial, and the wasteful spending accompanying it, to be over. Consumers will indeed see competition in the marketplace, rather than the courtroom. And the investors who propel our economy can finally breathe a sigh of relief.

Competition means creating better goods and offering superior services to consumers. With government out of the business of stifling progress and tying the hands of corporations, consumers - rather than bureaucrats and judges - will once again pick the winners and losers on Wall Street. With the reins off the high-tech industry, more entrepreneurs will be encouraged to create new and competitive products and technologies.

Despite the aggressive lobbying efforts of a few of Microsoft's competitors, the federal government and nine states finally reached a comprehensive agreement with Microsoft to address the reduced liability found in the Court of Appeals ruling. This settlement is tough, but reasonable and fair to all parties involved. Consumers overwhelmingly agree that settlement is good for them, the industry and the American economy.

Rick Friedman 104 Charlemagne Circle Harvest, AL 35749